

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTO 05192 222123Z

63

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PRS-01 AID-20 EB-11 L-03

COME-00 AGR-20 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 /129 W

----- 080998

R 222012Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9493

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 5192

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EAGR, DR

SUBJECT: THE PRESIDENT, THE ARMED FORCES, CIVIC

ACTION AND AGRARIAN REFORM

REF: SD 5184

1. DURING THE CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT BALAGUER REPORTED
REFTEL, THE SUBJECT TURNED TO THE ROLE OF THE ARMED FORCES IN
THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. THE PRESIDENT SAID HE FOUND THEM
MANAGEABLE AND PLIABLE. IT WAS ESSENTIAL, HE CONTINUED, FOR ANYONE
GOVERNING THE COUNTRY TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE ARMED FORCES WERE
PROUD OF THEIR INSTITUTION AND JEALOUS OF THEIR PERQUISITES. AS
LONG AS THEY DID NOT FEEL THREATENED BY THE PRESIDENT AND WERE REASON

-
ABLY SATISFIED WITH THEIR SHARE OF THE "SPOILS", THEY WOULD BEHAVE.
HE MENTIONED ADMIRAL JIMENEZ, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ARMED
FORCES, GENERAL PEREZ Y PEREZ, ARMY CHIEF, AND GENERAL LLUBERES,
CHIEF OF POLICE, AS REASONABLE MEN. (COMMENT: IT IS NOTE-
WORTHY THAT HE DID NOT MENTION GENERAL NEIT NIVAR AMONG THE
GROUP, AN OMISSION THAT VERY LIKELY WAS NOT AN OVERSIGHT.) THE
TASK AHEAD, HE THOUGHT, LAY IN CONTINUING TO EDUCATE THE ARMED
FORCES IN THEIR ROLE AS GUARANTORS OF THE CONSTITUTION, WHILE
KEEPING THEM REASONABLY CONTENT AND OUT OF POLITICS. HE
SEEMED OPTIMISTIC THAT THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANTO 05192 222123Z

2. I RECOUNTED TO THE PRESIDENT MY BRIEF EXPERIENCE IN VISITING

AGRARIAN REFORM PROJECTS AND MY PRELIMINARY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF WHAT I HAD SEEN. HE DESCRIBED THE INITIAL RESISTANCE HE HAD ENCOUNTERED IN GETTING THE PROGRAM OFF THE GROUND, BUT FELT THINGS WERE NOW MOVING ALONG AND THAT WHAT HE CONSIDERED AN "ESSENTIAL REFORM PROGRAM" WAS UNDERWAY WITH LITTLE POLITICAL FLAK. I INQUIRED WHETHER THE ARMED FORCES MIGHT NOT THROUGH ITS CIVIC ACTION PROGRAM IMPROVE ITS IMAGE BY PARTICIPATING IN THE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM, FOR THERE WERE MANY SOLDIERS AND A NUMBER OF PIECES OF ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT IDLE. THE PRESIDENT WAS TAKEN WITH THE THOUGHT AND ASKED WHETHER SOME OF THE FUNDS GENERATED BY PL 480 SALES COULD BE USED. I REPLIED THAT CIVIC ACTION FOR AGRARIAN REFORM PURPOSES FELL WITHIN THE DEFINITION OF OUR AGREED USE OF SUCH FUNDS. HE CONCLUDED THAT HE WOULD TRY AN INITIAL EXPERIMENT BY ASKING THE ARMED FORCES TO BUILD SOME FARM-TO-MARKET ROADS IN THE REGIONS WHERE THE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM MOST NEEDED THEM.

HURWITCH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, POLITICAL MILITARY RELATIONS, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, MEETINGS, AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinjw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANTO05192
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SANTO DOMINGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973128/aaaaafvg.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: SD 5184
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01-Feb-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2002 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE PRESIDENT, THE ARMED FORCES, CIVIC ACTION AND AGRARIAN REFORM
TAGS: PINT, EAGR, DR, US, (BALAGUER, JOACIM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005